

Classic Boat Festival

The Classic Boat Festival was started in 2002 by local citizens and boating enthusiasts as a pure celebration of wood, water, and Duxbury's rich maritime history. It was, and remains today, a grass-roots effort. The festival came together without a budget by the efforts of the volunteers and the generous support of the community organizations. In the first year, over 2,000 people from all over New England attended.

The 2004 Classic Boat Festival remains noncommercial and has grown into a two-day festival celebrating classic boat design, wooden and classic yacht construction, seamanship skills, and the maritime heritage of Duxbury Bay. More than 4,000 people are expected to attend this free event.

The Classic Boat Festival weekend consists of a one-day, in-the-water show on September 18, featuring more than 40 classic yachts in wood and other materials. All boats, including the special show-cased yacht, are available for boarding and discussion with the captains. Festival activities also include live entertainment, Duxbury-grown oyster bar, and a variety of snack foods provided by the high school sailing team. Hourly demonstrations feature boat maintenance, building techniques, seamanship, and maritime lore.



DUXBURY BAY CLASSIC BOAT

FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 18 & 19, 2004

On-water activities include a pilot gig rowing competition, sailboat rides on Duxbury built Pintail 25s, Tiny Tug Adventures, and other classic boats. A marine antiques and hardware bazaar will be open to the public on Saturday.

Following the show, the Duxbury Bay Maritime school will host the Classic Boat "Shindig in the Shed" dinner featuring a live band, and a "Wet Paint" auction of images of the Classic Boat Festival and Duxbury Marine environs, sponsored by and benefiting the Duxbury Art Association. A commemorative poster has been produced and will also be auctioned at the dinner.

The second day features a classic boat parade, with viewing from historic Duxbury shipbuilding sites, and a race open to all classic sail designs.